



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday Evening, July 15, 2010

## Major Developments

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### **BP Stops Oil Flow into Gulf from Blown-Out Well in Gulf of Mexico July 15**

#### **Testing of Well Integrity Begins**

BP began the well integrity test on July 15, effectively halting the leak from the blown-out MC252 well in the Gulf of Mexico, it said. No oil and gas is being captured, recovered, or flared from the well as it is completely sealed for the integrity tests. BP delayed the well integrity test on July 14-15 at the blown-out MC252 well in the Gulf of Mexico, citing a hydraulic leak along an associated line, multiple sources reported. It repaired that leak by July 15, however, and began the test later on July 15. The testing could take from 6 to 48 hours. BP said it does not expect any oil to be released into the ocean for the duration of the test, but cautioned that the shut-off would not be an indication that flow from the wellbore had permanently stopped. All work on the two relief wells has ceased during the well integrity testing.

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7063770>

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7063689>

<http://www.bp.com/genericarticle.do?categoryId=2012968&contentId=7063637>

<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

<http://app.restorethegulf.gov/go/doc/2931/780663/>

[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/16/us/16spill.html?\\_r=1&hp](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/16/us/16spill.html?_r=1&hp)

[http://blogs.chron.com/newswatchenergy/archives/2010/07/equipment\\_leak.html](http://blogs.chron.com/newswatchenergy/archives/2010/07/equipment_leak.html)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/15/AR2010071500642.html?hpid=topnews>

### **Update: BP Recovers About 12,840 Barrels of Oil at Site of Blown-Out Well in Gulf of Mexico July 14**

BP collected 7,680 barrels of oil, flared an additional 5,160 barrels of oil, and flared about 30.7 million cubic feet of natural gas on July 14 at the blown-out MC252 well in the Gulf of Mexico, the company said on its website.

<http://www.bp.com/extendedsectiongenericarticle.do?categoryId=40&contentId=7061813>

## Electricity

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### **Storm Knocks Out Power to More than 32,000 OPPD Customers in Nebraska July 14**

A storm knocked out power to at least 32,500 Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) customers in Nebraska on July 14, but the company had restored power to all but about 4,800, as of latest reports.

<http://twitter.com/OPPDStorm>

<http://www.oppdstorminfo.blogspot.com/>

### **Storms Cut Electricity to More than 40,000 Customers in Wisconsin July 14-15**

Storms cut power to more than 20,000 Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) customers, 10,629 Alliant customers, and about 10,000 We Energies customers in Wisconsin on July 14-15, multiple sources reported. The companies had restored power to most affected customers, as of latest reports.

<http://www.nbc15.com/home/headlines/98460434.html>

<http://www.wkbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=12809558>

<http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/outagesummary/view/outagegrid.aspx>

<http://www.alliantenergy.com/UtilityServices/StormOutageCenter/ElectricalOutageSummary/index.htm>

## **Power Outage Disrupts Operations at Reagan National Airport near Washington, D.C.**

**July 15**

A substation fire cut power to two terminals at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport on July 15, but power was restored in just over two hours, a spokesman said. Air traffic controllers operated on supplemental power, but the disruption halted some security checkpoints and impacted some ticket counters.

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/TRAVEL/07/15/dc.airport.power.outage/>

## **Calpine's 751 MW Pastoria Energy Facility Gas-Fired Unit in California Shut by July 14**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 14.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007141515.html>

## **Calpine's 593 MW Metcalf Energy Center Gas-Fired Unit in California Reduced by**

**July 14**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned curtailment of 328 MW by July 14.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007141515.html>

## **Cabrillo Power's 110 MW Encina Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Shut by July 14**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by July 14.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201007141515.html>

## **Dominion's 925 MW North Anna Nuclear Unit 1 in Virginia Shut by July 15**

Dominion shut the unit on July 14 due to small leaks along a Steam Generator sample line, it said in a filing with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC reported that on the morning of July 14 the unit was operating at 98 percent.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2010/20100715en.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

## **Dominion Stalls Restart of 815 MW Surry Nuclear Unit 2 in Virginia by July 15**

Dominion stopped restarting its 815 MW Surry nuclear unit 2 in Virginia by July 15 because of an issue with a voltage regulator, a company spokesman said. The unit shut on July 11 due to a leaking water pipe, according to the Associated Press

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/local-breaking-news/virginia/2-dominion-power-reactors-offl.html>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

## **Update: Constellation's 835 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Unit 2 in Maryland at Full Power by July 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 14 the unit was operating at 83 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

## **Constellation's 825 MW Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Unit 1 in Maryland Reduced to 86 Percent by July 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 14 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

## **Update: TVA's 1,155 MW Browns Ferry Nuclear Unit 1 in Alabama Ramped Up to 90 Percent by July 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of July 14 the unit was operating at 80 percent.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2010/>

### **Update: Deepwater Drilling Moratorium Could Have Long-Lasting Impact as Companies Re-Route Rigs Away from Gulf of Mexico**

The government's six month moratorium on deepwater drilling could carry impacts that last far longer than six months, analysts warn, as companies redirect idled rigs away from U.S. waters. Diamond Offshore Drilling, for one, has said it plans to send two Gulf-based rigs to foreign countries, and might redirect a third. "If a rig goes, it's not a short-term decision, and it can put projects behind," according to an analyst at Argus Research. Reuters, 13:18 July 15, 2010

### **BP Returning to Normal Operations after FCC Upset at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery July 14-15**

BP was "resuming normal operations" after an upset in a fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCC) at its 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery on July 14-15, the company said in a filing with state regulators. It was not clear if the incident had any impact to production.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=142317>

### **Petrobras to Produce 360,000 b/d, Combined, at Parque das Baleias and Roncador Fields in Brazil**

Production is expected to begin in 2013, according to a project affiliate. Petrobras, separately, said it expected to produce 100,000 b/d of oil, combined, in December 2010 at its Baleia Franca and Cachalote fields in Brazil.

<http://www.genewscenter.com/Press-Releases/GE-Oil-Gas-Awarded-160-Million-Petrobras-Contracts-for-P-58-and-P-62-Floating-Production-Units-in-Brazil-295d.aspx>

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=96114](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=96114)

## ***Natural Gas***

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### **Fire Extinguished at Chesapeake Energy-Operated Natural Gas Well Pad in Susquehanna County, July 13**

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is investigating the cause of a July 13 fire at a natural gas well pad in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, it said on July 14. Responders extinguished the blaze in about two hours, and there were no injuries or evacuations. The well was producing natural gas at the time of the incident; the site will remain offline pending repairs and the DEP's investigation.

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/newsroom/14287?id=12844&typeid=1>

## ***Other News***

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### **Obama to Attend Groundbreaking of LG Chem's Planned Electric Vehicle Battery Plant in Holland, Michigan**

The plant is the ninth of nine new advanced battery factories to start construction as a result of \$2.4 billion in Recovery Act awards President Obama announced last August, the White House said in a release. The facility is expected to reach full operations in 2013 and produce battery cells to support 53,000 Chevy Volts per year.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/background-presidents-event-holland-michigan-today>

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100714/BUSINESS01/7140347/1002/rss02>

<http://www.detnews.com/article/20100714/AUTO01/7140328/1148/Obama-to-visit-Michigan-to-jolt-electric-car-efforts>

## DOE Releases New Report on Economic Impact of Recovery Act Advanced Vehicle Investments July 14

Ahead of President Obama's trip to Holland, MI for the official groundbreaking of the new Compact Power plant, the Department of Energy released a new report on the economic impact of Recovery Act investments in advanced batteries and vehicles. The report, "Recovery Act Investments: Transforming America's Transportation Sector," documents how Recovery Act funds are being matched with private capital to create new jobs, construct new plants, add new manufacturing lines, install electric vehicle charging stations across the country and help build the emerging domestic electric vehicle industry from the ground up. To read the report, click on the first link below.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/files/documents/Battery-and-Electric-Vehicle-Report-FINAL.pdf>

<http://www.energy.gov/news/9212.htm>

## Coulomb Technologies Installs Electric Vehicle Charging Station in New York July 14

New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg was on hand as Coulomb Technologies unveiled its first public ChargePoint Networked Charging Station for electric vehicles in New York City, New York on July 14. The station was part of the ChargePoint America program, which will offer free stations for both public and home charging throughout the metropolitan area.

[http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/menuitem.c0935b9a57bb4ef3daf2f1c701c789a0/index.jsp?pageID=mayor\\_press\\_release&catID=1194&doc\\_name=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nyc.gov%2Fhtml%2Fom%2Fhtml%2F2010b%2Fpr313-10.html&cc=unused1978&rc=1194&ndi=1](http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/menuitem.c0935b9a57bb4ef3daf2f1c701c789a0/index.jsp?pageID=mayor_press_release&catID=1194&doc_name=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nyc.gov%2Fhtml%2Fom%2Fhtml%2F2010b%2Fpr313-10.html&cc=unused1978&rc=1194&ndi=1)

<http://chargepointamerica.com/pr/pr-20100714.php>

## U.S. Ethanol Exports Dip 58 Percent in May 2010, Compared to April 2010: RFA

U.S. ethanol exports slid to 17.1 million gallons in May 2010, marking a sharp decline from 40.8 million gallons in April 2010 and 48.3 million gallons in March 2010, the Renewable Fuels Association said on July 13. Despite the dip, the United States has exported 25 percent more ethanol – denatured and undenatured, non-beverage – in the first five months of 2010 than in all of 2009, according to the RFA.

<http://www.ethanolrfa.org/news/entry/ethanol-exports-update-exports-down-58-in-may/>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
July 15, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	76.29	75.48	61.65
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	4.39	4.76	3.37

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

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### FEMA to Evaluate Biennial Emergency Preparedness Exercise at Dominion's North Anna Nuclear Power Plant in Virginia Beginning July 19

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=52143>

### U.S. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) Joins Babcock & Wilcox Nuclear Energy, Inc. and Bechtel Power Corporation to Announce Companies' Alliance to Design, License, and Deploy Small Modular Nuclear Power Plant – First Plant Could be Deployed as Soon as 2020

<http://webb.senate.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/07-14-2010-01.cfm>

**State Police Investigating Copper Theft from APCO Substation in West Virginia by End of Last Week – Affected Station Delivers Power to Consol Energy’s Amonate Coal Mine**

<http://bdtonline.com/editorials/x829290240/Copper-thefts-Tough-action-needed-to-deter-crime>

**NRC Plans to Launch Security Requirements for Using and Transporting Certain Radioactive Materials**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-17126.htm>

**Global Wave Resources Have the Potential to Generate 6,000 TWh/Year of Electricity, or Twice the Amount of Worldwide Nuclear Power Output: Frost & Sullivan**

<http://www.frost.com/prod/servlet/presentation.release.pag?docid=205725055&ctxixpLink=FcmCtx1&ctxixpLabel=FcmCtx2>

**U.S. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) Seeks Federal Plan to Protect Offshore Oil Rigs from Terrorist Attacks**

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/07/13/offshore.rigs.security/>

**Massachusetts House Approves Bill in Bid to Simplify Permit Process for Wind-Based Power Projects**

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9GV32CG3.htm>

**Operational Issues Trigger Flaring at ExxonMobil’s 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery by July 15**

Reuters, 08:09 July 15, 2010

**UK-Based Premier Oil Could Boost Production to Approximately 100,000 b/d after 2012, Compared to Target of About 44,000 Boe/d in 2010**

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/15/AR2010071502848.html>  
<http://www.premier-oil.com/render.aspx?siteID=1&navIDs=19,312,327,746,766>

**Petrobras Aims to Produce 35,000 b/d of Oil in Late 2010 at Uruguá Oilfield in Brazil**

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=96118](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=96118)

**State Regulators Approve Calais LNG's Bid to Delay Permit Hearings for Planned LNG Terminal in Maine – Hearings Had Been Scheduled to Start on July 19**

[http://www.pressherald.com/news/calais-lng-firm-granted-ok-to-postpone-hearing-on-terminal\\_2010-07-15.html](http://www.pressherald.com/news/calais-lng-firm-granted-ok-to-postpone-hearing-on-terminal_2010-07-15.html)

**Exxon Mobil Corporation and Synthetic Genomics Inc. Open Greenhouse Facility for Algae Biofuels Program July 14**

[http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/exxonmobil/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news\\_view&ndmConfigId=1001106&newsId=20100714006070&newsLang=en](http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/exxonmobil/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&ndmConfigId=1001106&newsId=20100714006070&newsLang=en)

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## Links

***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

## ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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